

REMARKSSTATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 21-24, 28-33, and 37-48 have been amended. Claims 21-49 are currently under examination in the case.

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

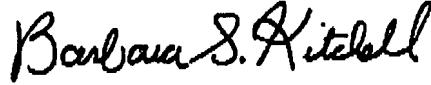
The amendments to the claims are believed to be formalities only: the term "αIIspectrin" has been corrected to "αII-spectrin" in claims 21-24, 30-33, 38-43, 45, 47 and 48. A transcriptional error in claims 24 and 46 has been corrected by amending "SBPD" and "SPDP" to properly denote spectrin breakdown product (SBDP).

Claims 29 and 37 were improperly dependent on claims 28 and 36 and have been amended to depend on claims 27 and 35 respectively.

Claim 44, as noted by the Examiner, as previously presented was confusing. The alternative portion of the claim has been deleted.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's reconsideration and request a telephone conference if that would assist in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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